

The Presbyterian Church  
New Providence, Union County, New Jersey

HABS-<sup>6</sup>NY-297

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NJ  
20-NEWP  
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer  
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

HABS  
N.J.  
20 NEWP.  
1-

The Presbyterian Church  
New Providence, Union County, New Jersey

Owner: The Trustees of the Presbyterian Church

Date of Erection: 1834

Architect: Amos Wilcox

Builder: Carter and Bruen

Present Condition: Excellent

Number of Stories: One with balcony and tower

Materials of Construction: Foundation - cut brown  
stone

Exterior walls - narrow  
clapboards, flush boards  
on tower walls, wood  
quoins on corners of  
building and tower

Interior walls - wainscot  
4 feet high; plaster above  
and ceiling

Roof - pitch

Historical Data:

In 1737 the inhabitants of Turkey formed themselves into a congregation for religious worship and solicited the patronage of the Presbytery of New York. A log church was erected which was replaced by a frame building in 1739. The land for the church

was a gift of John Blanchard; the deed is dated October 7, 1738. For over forty years the people used this second structure for worship. Then in 1773 it was found too small; an addition was put up and enclosed, but owing to the Revolution it was not completed until 1782. The name of the church was changed in 1778 from the Turkey Christian Church to the Presbyterian Church of New Providence. The society was incorporated in 1793.

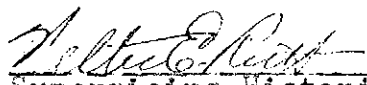
At a parish meeting of April 29, 1833, it was decided to build a new church, the cost not to exceed \$4,000. The contract was given to Carter and Bruen of Chatham in 1833. The building committee contained among other members Amos Wilcox who drew the plans for the church. On June 6, 1834 the corner stone of the building was laid; the church was dedicated on October 2, 1834.

In 1836 it was ordered that a subscription be obtained for a bell. The bell was installed in 1839.

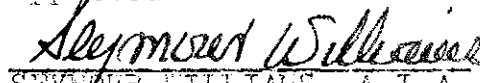
Bibliography:

Honeyman, A. Van Doren The History of Union County New York, Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1923

Material collected by Walter D. Terrill

  
Supervising Historian

Approved:

  
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District Officer

Rev. Jan 26 '37 T.T.W.